



**Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,**  
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,  
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,  
Áras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,  
Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,  
Caladh an Treoigh,  
Luimneach.

**Office of the Assistant National Director,**  
National Disability Team,  
First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15,  
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,  
National Technology Park,  
Castletroy,

8<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Deputy Pauline Tully,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
E-mail: [pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie](mailto:pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie)

Dear Deputy Tully,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

**PQ: 17451/24**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the proportion of disabled people in residential care in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024 who were categorised as having low to medium support needs; and the proportion of disabled people in residential care in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024 who were categorised as having high to intensive support needs, in tabular form.*

**PQ: 17452/24**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the capital costs of providing a four-bedroom residential centre for disabled people; the first-year current costs of providing a four-bedroom residential centre for disabled people; and the full year current cost of providing a four-bedroom residential centre for disabled people, in tabular form.*

**HSE Response**

Residential services make up the largest part of the Disability funding disbursed by the HSE – over 60% of the total budget – and approximately 90 service providers provide residential services to over 8,000 individuals throughout the country. The bulk of these are provided by the 50 highest funded agencies (comprising both Section 38 & Section 39 organisations) – some 6,360 places, or 77%. The HSE itself provides 1,085 or 13% of the places. While approximately 834 places or 10% are provided by Private-for-Profit agencies

The HSE developed a Residential Capacity Database to capture the number of residential placements / contract capacity per the service arrangement between the nine CHO areas and the service provider agencies.

Please see the table below which provides information on the number of residential places at the end of December each year up to the end of March 2024.



Year	December 2020	December 2021	December 2022	December 2023	End of March 2024
Residential Places	8,139	8,146	8,282	8,400	8,472

A number of new emergency residential places have been added to the residential base, which results in a capacity increase. However, it should also be noted that Residential Capacity will also reduce during the year as a result of the loss of places in congregated settings due to deaths, which cannot be re-utilised. This is in keeping with Government policy, which is to move away from institutionalised settings (i.e. Time to Move On from Congregate Settings) where the State is actively implementing a policy that will have a bed reduction impact. In addition, "in-year" capacity (bed) levels will also be impacted negatively as a result of regulatory requirements; that is, where an inspection outcome leads to capacity being reduced.

With regard to the question asked regarding the proportion of disabled people in residential care who were categorised as having low to medium support needs; and the proportion who are categorised as having high to intensive support needs, we don't have definitive data on the breakdown of the number of people with a disability in residential settings by disability type. However, based on the National Disability Database Reports, we can estimate that about 8% of our Residential Capacity) is taken up by people with a physical or sensory disability and 92% by people with an Intellectual Disability or Autism.

### Costs

The cost of any particular project is directly related to the scale and scope of said project. In addition, the cost varies depending on the requirements and needs of people availing of support in each location. The design and build and/or purchase and refurbishment of a building that meets all regulatory requirements, is also market dependent.

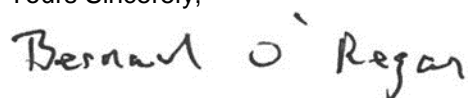
In the absence of specific details, it is not possible to provide a cost for any particular project, however approximately we can say:

Design and Build and/or Purchase and Refurbishment of minimum 4 bedroom residence with ancillary requirements per Health and Safety requirements and HIQA registration:– indicative estimate €650k to €950k per facility:

24 places: €3,900,000 to €5,700,000  
36 places: €5,850,000 to €8,550,000  
48 places: €7,800,000 to €11,400,000

In overall terms, €15.5m has been allocated across all CHOs in 2024 for full year cost to approximately 100 Priority 1 residential placements. The full-year cost in 2025 of the 2024 monies is 31 million.

Yours Sincerely,



**Bernard O'Regan**  
Assistant National Director  
National Disability Team

